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Nippon Times

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NIPPON UNITS SEIZE STRATEGIC WUCHOW IN S. CHINA ADVANCE

Vital Enemy Base Reduced on September 22, Imperial Headquarters Reveals

Imperial Japanese Army Units in South China that had commenced offensive operations against the Chungking troops in the 7th War Zone from the area on both banks of the Si River and Luichow Peninsula and had been continuing their advance since the early part of this month, reduced Wuchow on September 22, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 3:20 p.m. on Saturday.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
3:20 p.m. September 23

"Our Units in the South China area that commenced offensive operations against the Chungking forces in the 7th War Zone from the area on both banks of the Si River and Luichow Peninsula and had been advancing since the early part of September, reduced Wuchow on September 22."

Japanese Pushing Offensive

Following the occupation of various vital enemy bases in Kwangtung and Kwangsi provinces, the Japanese Army Forces completely occupied Wuchow, another enemy stronghold, at 10 a.m. on September 22.

Commencing an offensive drive in the area on the southern bank of the Si River early this month, Japanese Units in cooperation with comrade forces, advancing along the northern bank of the same river, reduced Chaoching on September 16, a week after the launching of their new action. This was followed by [illegible] including Sinhing, Yunfu, Pakhing and Huihsien by the southward advancing Japanese Units.

On the other hand, the Japanese Units that had been advancing in the northern area of the Si River, after going into action at a point near Chingyuan, captured Waitsap on September 12 and Sintu on September 15 after penetrating the Kwangtung-Kwangsi border.

Continuing their sweeping advance, the Japanese, in one blow, finally reduced Wuchow on September 22. In collaboration with other units, the Japanese that started new action on September 8 on Luichow Peninsula, pierced the Kwangsi border on September 16 and are now continuing their advance.

In the meantime, Japanese Units further north also broke through the Kwangsi border and are speedily dashing toward Kweilin after occupying Chuanhsien on September 14.

Moving from Lingling, various Japanese Units also penetrated the border and after reducing Kianghwa and Yungning on September 18 are now advancing southward without respite.

As a result of the Japanese penetrations of the border and the reduction of Wuchow, the only remaining strategic enemy bases in Horan Province are now Chihkiang and Paoking, the latter of which is now in imminent peril of being captured.

Wuchow is the vital enemy base in southeast Kwangsi Province, militarily, politically and economically. With a population of 110,000, it is the third largest city in the province. Like Kweilin, Nanking and Liuchow, it had been the pivotal point for the China-based U.S. air force.

SEVERS TIES WITH JAPAN

Finland Announces Cutting Off Of Diplomatic Relations

Domei

BERLIN September 22.—(Urgent) The Finnish Government has severed diplomatic relations with the Japanese Government today, according to a D.N.B. dispatch from Stockholm.

Caffery Given Paris Post

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, September 21.—President Roosevelt has announced the appointment of Jefferson Caffery to the personal rank of Ambassador to the French authorities now established in Paris. Caffery was American Ambassador to Brazil and served from 1937 until his recent return to Washington from Rio de Janeiro.

Burma-China Border Sees Intensification Of Nippon Offensive

Domei

CANTON, September 22.—Admitting intensification of the Japanese offensive on the Burma-China border, a Chungking broadcast made the following announcement: Japanese Forces operating in the Mangshih area, 20 kilometers southwest of Lungling, commenced an intensified offensive around September 20. Several units have advanced northward as well as eastward from Lungling and at present, a furious battle is raging at a point, 13 kilometers east of Lungling, in the course of which, the Chungking forces lost several important positions.

U.S. PLANE-CARRIERS HIT BY JAPANESE AIR FORCE

Enemy Fleet East of Philippines Bombed—Battle Continues on Peliliu, Angaur Isles

Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, September 23.—Spotting a group of enemy aircraft carriers operating in the waters east of the Philippines early yesterday morning, Japanese Air Units immediately hopped off from their base and launched fierce attacks.

Catching up with several large plane-carriers, our Wild Eagles heavily bombed them, setting ablaze their flying decks besides inflicting tremendous damage.

In intercepting battles with about 30 small enemy planes that came attacking the northern part of Celebes on Thursday, the Japanese Units on the spot shot down or damaged 12 raiders.

On the same afternoon, a formation of about 50 enemy small aircraft attacked Kaimana on New Guinea Island but [illegible] by the Japanese there.

A group of 20 four-engined enemy bombers attempted to raid Amboina Island on the afternoon of September 21.

Chichijima Raiders Repulsed
Special to the Nippon Times

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, September 23.—A formation of 10-odd enemy B-24 bombers made a daylight attack against Chichijima Island in the Ogasawara Group yesterday but the Japanese drove off all the raiders in the ensuing battle.

An aggregate total of 150 enemy carrier-borne fighters and bombers attacked the main island of the Palau Group yesterday.

Furious Battles Raging

Counter-attacking the enemy forces that have landed on Peliliu and Angaur islands in the middle of this month, Imperial Japanese Forces in the Palau area, their fighting spirit and morale high, are endlessly engaged in inflicting staggering blows upon the enemy.

Having adjusted their lines to the north of the airfield and the southern tip of the island, the Japanese on Peliliu Island are at present putting up a valiant fight. Launching fierce assaults, the Japanese destroyed five enemy tanks on September 20 besides inflicting huge personnel losses on the enemy.

Due to the enormous casualties suffered since their landing on the island, the enemy seem to have lost their fighting spirit. A U.P. dispatch from the American fleet base in the South Pacific, dated September 21, stated that the fighting on Peliliu Island was far more difficult than that experienced on Taroa and Saipan Islands.

The same dispatch further stated that the first and seventh American Marine Corps had sustained considerable losses. Particularly disagreeable to the Americans is the hand-to-hand battle put up by the Japanese who valiantly attacked the enemy that advanced step by step over the coral reefs.

The size of the enemy losses is seen in the fact that a large American hospital ship appeared in the sea area southeast of Peliliu Island on the evening of September 21.

On Angaur Island, fierce fighting is also raging. The Japanese Forces in their relentless attacks destroyed thirty large and small landing barges, seven heavy firearms and three trench-mortars on September 19, 20 and 21. In addition, the enemy suffered a loss of more than 300 men who were killed or wounded in a single day.

ENEMY PARACHUTISTS SMASHED AT ARNHEIM

Over One-Half Annihilated in Landing Attempt; Reich Stops Dempsey's Army

Domei

BERLIN, September 22.—Another Anglo-American landing of para-troops near Arnheim yesterday was smashed and over-half of their number were annihilated. Despite strong fighter escort, German fighters attacked the transport unit from all directions and brought down 32 machines. Many other planes landed behind German lines. The British in this unsuccessful landing attempt lost 164 flying personnel and more than 460 parachutists.

Only a fraction of parachutists and supplies actually got into the hands of the beleaguered British 1st Air-Borne Division which has already been reduced to less than half and being further compressed by concentric German attacks. The number of prisoners has increased to over 3,200.

Meanwhile, battle raged with increased violence in the region of Nijmegen and Arnheim and grim fighting for the Waal bridges near Nijmegen continued as tanks of the British 2nd Army and American para-troops tried hard to gain ground northward. Attempts of widening the narrow corridor from Gheel to Nijmegen in northern Belgium and southern Holland respectively resulted in heavy attacks and counter-attacks. General Dempsey could not remove the German thrusts against its flanks and has not yet succeeded in establishing contact with the British 1st Air-Borne Division fighting for its very existence near Arnheim. The branch of the Rhine Lek lies as a barrier between the troops of the British 2nd Army advancing from the south and British para-troops dropped near Arnheim. Meanwhile, the ranks of the British para-troops are diminishing at a fast pace.

Fighting in all the other sectors of the Western Front even in the Aachen area was marked by only local character. Although some changes in the frontline were made, no real operative change in the situation occurred during the past 24 hours. More setbacks than successes were experienced by the enemy.

All attempts of the left wing of the American 1st Army to reach the Wuerm sector from Dutch Limburg and to encircle Aachen from the north though attempted with strong forces were all frustrated. Also between Aachen and Stolberg as well as in the western Eifel, enemy troops were nailed to the ground by relentless German counter pressure. At Ballendorf on the Sauer River, the enemy lost additional ground of his bridgehead which is now almost completely eliminated.

More extensive fighting was reported from the sector between Metz and central Vosges. Attempts made by the American 3rd Army to cross the Seille River, east of Pont-a-Mousson were frustratd. Further to the southeast, the Americans had to withdraw again from Chateau-Salius.

North of Luneville on both sides of the Rhine-Meuse Canal, enemy troops increased their pressure toward the east and only little headway was made. Heavy tank fighting is still going on there. South of Luneville, American attacks bogged down. Enemy forces, likewise, approached no nearer to Epinal. On the other hand, American troops launched a strong attack and succeeded in entering Remiremont, south of Epinal but were driven out again and fighting is still continuing here.

GERMANS HOLD POSITIONS ALONG BALTIC WAR AREA

Domei

BERLIN, September 22.—The eighth day of the big battle in the Baltic region was again marked by fierce attempts by concentrated Soviet forces to break through but in elastic defense the Germans succeeded in holding their front against all onslaughts.

Repeatedly the German troops launched counter-attacks and inflicted high losses upon the Red Army. In the Baltic region battlefields alone, 103 Soviet tanks were either captured or destroyed.

German counter-thrust on the southern wing of the northern sector to hem in the Soviet dent at Bauske in the direction of Riga made further progress south of Mitau and again gained important terrain.

Nippon Aid Assured P.I. Republic In Joint Struggle for Liberation

Taking the occasion of the proclamation of war on the United States of America and Great Britain on September 23 by the Government of the Philippines, the Imperial Japanese Government issued the following statement which was released by the Board of Information on the afternoon of the same day:

THE STATEMENT OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE WAR OF GREATER EAST ASIA.

September 23, 1944

"Today, on the 23rd of September, 1944, the Government of the Philippines declared war on the United States of America and Great Britain. The Japanese Government take this occasion to declare their views to all the world.

"At this moment when the War of Greater East Asia, growing speedily in severity, is about to reach the decisive turn, the 18,000,000 people of the Philippines have risen resolutely to preserve their glorious independence. They have taken up the sword of righteousness in defense of their fatherland. This action of the Republic, for which the reasons are clearly set forth in the proclamation of a state of war issued by the Government, is to be regarded truly as the manifestation of the Oriental morality, and as such it finds a ready, sympathetic response in the heart of the Japanese nation.

"Since its achievement of independence last autumn, the Philippine Republic, under the personal leadership and guidance of the President, His Excellency Mr. Jose P. Laurel, has made internally a steady progress in the perfection of its administrative system, while externally it has maintained intimate cooperation with Japan and all other countries of East Asia.

"Now the Republic has resolved to join the front line against America and Britain. It is a grand spectacle which has been never before witnessed in history and which more than fully assures the resurgence of Greater East Asia that the nations and peoples of this region are now waging, shoulder to shoulder in concord and unison, a common war of liberation.

"The Japanese Government desire to express their sincere and confident hope that the Philippine nation will successfully guard its independence and honor, and defend its homeland, and to state plainly their determination to render every assistance to the Republic as is provided for under the Japan-Philippine Pact of Alliance, and furthermore to win together the War of Greater East Asia by crushing America and Britain and thus to go forward with the task of the construction of Greater East Asia."

F.D.R. SEEKS EXTENSION OF KIMMEL, SHORT TRIAL

Wants Investigators Make Reports First; Says China War Unsatisfactory

Domei

LISBON, Sptember 22.—President Roosevelt suggested today that the court martial of Rear-Admiral Husband Kimmel and Lieutenant-General Walter Short should wait until the committee for investigating the Pearl Harbor disaster were heard from and when asked by reporters if the Government had information in advance about the impending Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the President replied such information should be submitted to the investigating boards and added that there was going to be lots of things like that reported," according to a Washington dispatch.

The President made his statements today in his first conference with the press since his return to the capital from the Quebec Conference with Prime Minister Churchill.

Asked for comment on the Chinese situation, which the corresrespondent pointed out was truly desperate, Roosevelt indicated that the situation was not at all satisfactory from a military point of view.

In response to the question about Donald Nelson's impending return from Chungking, the President said that he had read about it in the paper but had no word from him direct. He added that Nelson and Major-General Patrick Hurley had been in close touch with Chiang Kai-shek and were getting along fine.

Asked if he and Churchill had talked about Germany at Quebec, the President said that they had talked about it a lot, but stated that there was nothing in the way of news yet.

FETING TRIPARTITE PACT

3rd Anniversary Being Observed on September 28 at Imperial Hotel

Commemorating the third anniversary of the conclusion of the Tripartite Alliance, the Japan-Germany-Italy Goodwill Association is to hold a meeting at noon on September 28 at the Imperial Hotel, when words of greetings will be expressed by Vice-Admiral Viscount Naganari Ogasawara, president of the Association, H. G. Stahmer, German Ambassador to Tokyo, Colonel Omero Principini, Italian Charge d'Affaires to Tokyo, and Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, and Toshio Shiratori, former Japanese Ambassador to Italy, will also deliver speeches.

On September 30 at 1 p.m., a grand lecture meeting for encouraging the German people will take place at the Hibiya Public Hall when Viscount Ogasawara, Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Tatekawa, former Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr. Shiratori, and Lieutenant-General Nobutaka Shioden, Diet member, are to address the gathering.

FINN-SOVIET ARMISTICE CAUSES UNREST IN U.S.

Yankees of Scandinavian Descent Say Atlantic Charter Has Been Violated

Domei

LISBON, September 22.—Moscow's armistice conditions for Finland have created great dissatisfaction among the American population of Scandinavian descent especially in North and South Dakota, according to a New York dispatch.

It is reported that these quarters are worried particularly about the cession of areas like Karelia, Petsamo and Porkala. They also charged that article 13 of the armistice terms, according to which leading Finnish officers and politicians are to be handed over to the Soviets as war criminals, is a violation of the Atlantic Charter.

Meanwhile it is said that the American citizens of Finnish descent intend to forward a petition to President Roosevelt shortly asking him to use his influence to see that the "Atlantic Charter be adhered to" and that the "Finnish citizens who defended their country out of patriotism will not be tried as war criminals."

To Intern Germans

Domei

STOCKHOLM, September 21.—The Finnish Government has decided to intern all Germans and Hungarians living in the country, and it was announced today that all these people will have to report to the local Finnish police authorities before 11 a.m. Friday, according to a Helsinki dispatch.

Peace Terms Ridiculed

Domei

BERLIN, September 21.—The Soviet-Finnish armistice conditions are so elastic that according to interpretation even President Field Marshal Baron Karl von Mannerheim may be branded a war criminal, the spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse stated today.

Individual conditions of the armistice, the spokesman believed, are so elastic that any interpretation may be made of them. He stated, for instance, that the demand for the handing over of "Finnish war criminals" might even include "President Mannerheim." Rights of the control commission, furthermore, are practically unlimited, he said.

Believing that not all the Finns are in favor of the armistice, the German spokesman offered the invitation that Finnish refugees who want to come to Germany will be accorded a most friendly welcome.

Japanese Planes Active

In close cooperation with the land forces, Japanese Army Air Units have been ceaselessly attacking Sian, Tanchuk, Liuchow and Kanchow, advance bases of the U.S. air forces in China, and succeeded in temporarily paralyzing the enemy facilities at these places. In their offensive and intercepting attacks over these airfields, the Japanese shot down, damaged or set ablaze a total of 94 enemy planes in the three weeks of September.

FULL SUPPORT TO P.I. PROMISED BY MURATA

Nippon Forces Ready to Defend Islands, Envoy Avers on Republic's War Entry

Domei

MANILA, September 23.—Shozo Murata, Ambassador to the Philippines, issued the following statement on September 23, on the very day the Philippine Republic declared that it was participating in the war:

"America, which is dreaming of dominating the world and is planning for the Anglo-Saxons to hold the races of East Asia under bondage for ever, has again committed an act of outrage by making a raid on the Philippines, and has compelled the islands to join in the war against America.

"Remembering the fact that pressure from America compelled Japan to rise in arms, I hereby express a profound sense of sympathy with the Philippines in the position in which it finds itself today. I declare with all solemnity that the Japanese Forces in the Philippines are ready to perform the great function of defending it with all their might according to the Japan-Philippines Pact of Alliance.

"The war object of the various races of Greater East Asia is clearly set forth in the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asia. I have no doubt that the participation of the Philippines in the war will be a powerful support for the structure for the full realization of the five fundamental principles laid down by the declaration. Japan considers it an honor to fight in union with the Philippines, will support its independence, and heartily wishes it prosperity.

"So long as Japan and the Philippines are determined to truly trust each other, help each other, enjoy prosperity mutually, and share the fate of each other, not only a successful defense of the Philippines but also the victory of the races of Greater East Asia can be depended upon to materialize. The Japanese Forces have remained in the Philippines up to the present in accordance with the Pact of Alliance, and have been attending to the perfecting of the structure of defense with a great measure of cooperation of the Philippine officials and people.

"Thus the participation of the Philippines in the war find the Japanese Forces fully ready for action and in a position to cooperate with the islands in battle array. This fact is the consequence of the sustained exertions of the Philippine officials and people. I hereby extend thanks to them and pay respect to them.

"The independence of the Philippines which was effected in October last year is to be completed only after it has been subjected to numerous trials. We remember many national heroes who have in the past shed their blood and given their lives in order to achieve independence for the Philippines. I have no doubt that the participation of the Philippines in the war will be the occasion for all the residents of the islands to arouse themselves to action, to knit themselves closely together, and under the personal direction of His Excellency President Laurel to make a demonstration of what is best in their traditions and march on the road leading the Philippines as a great East Asiatic State. I sincerely hope that the Philippine people will stimulate their fighting spirit and that the Japanese Forces will make greater exertions."

661 ENEMY TANKS BLASTED

Big Toll Taken Since Beginning of Offensive in Italy

Domei

BERLIN, September 22.—Since the beginning of their large-scale offensive, the British 8th Army and the American 5th Army have lost 661 tanks on the Italian Front, it was announced today.

The anti-Axis offensive in Italy despite many weeks of furious attacks with massed tank forces and superior air formations has yielded no results other than the capture of some insignificant heights.

British and American troops yesterday suspended their attacks on the whole Italian Front, while on the other hand, German troops north of Florence regained the initiative and closed the only front gap achieved by the enemy forces.

In the Adriatic sector, German formations entered new positions between San Marino and the coast.

Cooperation Pledged By Japanese Forces For P.I. Martial Law

Domei

MANILA, September 22.—All-out cooperation of the Japanese Forces in the Philippines with the Philippine Government in enforcing martial law, as expressed by the Japanese military authorities here, was announced by the Government, today as follows: "Immediately following the reckless air raid on Manila by the U.S. air force, the Philippine Government proclaimed the enforcement of martial law over the entire country in order to preserve peace and order. In this connection, the Japanese Army and Navy Forces here pledge all-out cooperation with the Philippine Government in effecting enforcement of the martial law.

19 U.S. PLANES BLASTED IN RAIDING MANILA AREA

200 Ship-Based Craft Stage Morning Attack; Binondo Cathedral Destroyed

Domei

MANILA, September 22.—An aggregate total of 200 ship-based planes of the United States air force again came attacking the Manila area today in four waves and continued bombing attacks from 7:30 a.m. till 10 a.m. the same day. The enemy attacked harbor facilities and airdromes while a part of the formation machine-gunned and bombed the thoroughfares, dropping bombs on the vicinity of the Binondo Cathedral and the Japanese Embassy. The cathedral was burnt down and many houses of Filipino and Chinese residents in the vicinity were also reduced to ashes.

A total of 19 enemy machines were shot down or damaged of which 15 were destroyed (four unconfirmed), two others damaged by an-[illegible] brought down in aerial duel.

Sighting the arrival of American planes which had long been attempting to air-raid Manila, Japanese anti-aircraft units suddenly opened fire. A formation of enemy fighters and bombers was seen flying toward Manila Bay, apparently with the intention of attacking Japanese vessels in the Bay but smoke-screens spread over the Bay immediately enveloped the enemy formation. One enemy plane after being hit soon caught fire and plunged into Manila Bay. A little while later, another enemy machine caught fire and fell into the sea.

The streets of Manila are being guarded by Japanese soldiers and at every street corner Philippine Police Corps armed with pistols are closely cooperating with the Imperial Forces. The citizens of Manila with complete confidence in the Japanese troops and the Philippine policemen are taking refuge in the air raid shelters.

Some Filipinos thought that even the American devils would not dare to bomb their dwellings, but their supposition was miserably shattered when the bombers destroyed a number of dwellings of the Filipinos at Davao, Cebu and elsewhere on the islands.

EX-ECUADOR HEAD NABBED

100 Government Officials Also Arrested on Treason Charge

Domei

LISBON, September 22.—Carlos Arroy del Rio, former President of Ecuador, and more than 100 other high Government officials of Ecuador were arrested today for participating in the negotiations with Peru in 1942 for a mutual frontier agreement, according to a Quito dispatch.

The report added that these officials are to be brought before the court on charge of treason against the country.

Belgium Cabinet Resigns

Domei

LISBON, September 22.—The Belgian Government under Prime Minister Hurbert Pierlot which established its offices in Brussels only a week ago, resigned en bloc today, it was announced in London today.

Reich Troops Leave Tallinn

Domei

STOCKHOLM, September 22.—German forces are reported to have withdrawn from Tallinn, capital of Estonia, according to field dispatches received here.

WAR IS PROCLAIMED BY PHILIPPINE GOV'T ON AMERICA, BRITAIN

U.S. Violated Territorial Integrity Despite Appeal, Says Laurel's Proclamation

Domei

MANILA, September 23.—President Jose P. Laurel, at 10 a.m. today, proclaimed the existence of a state of war between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of America and Great Britain, effective immediately.

The proclamation declared that the United States and Britain attacked the Philippines from the air despite the appeal by the President on the occasion of the inauguration of the Republic last year for amity and goodwill with all nations of the world. The Philippines is honor-bound to "safeguard its independence and territorial integrity as every self-respecting sovereign state," it asserted.

The text of the President's proclamation declaring the existence of a state of war between the Philippines and the United States of America and Great Britain follows:

"Whereas the Filipino people during the whole period of subjection to alien rule unremittingly labored for freedom and independence and to this end fought two wars and countless revolutions; whereas upon attainment by the Philippines of her cherished goal of freedom and independence and on the occasion of the inauguration of the Republic of Philippines on October 14, 1943, the President appealed to all nations and peoples of the world for amity and goodwill and, to the United States of America especially, pleaded that the Philippines be spared suffering and destruction incident to the [illegible] soil; whereas notwithstanding the appeal, the United States of America and Great Britain attacked from the air certain parts of the Philippines and thereby violating the territorial integrity of the Republic and causing death or injury to citizens and destruction or damage to property; whereas the Philippines must safeguard its independence and territorial integrity as every self-respecting sovereign state is in honor bound to do; and whereas the Republic of the Philippines entered into the pact of alliance with Japan based on mutual respect of sovereignty and territories to safeguard territorial integrity and independence of the Philippines:

"Now, therefore, I, Jose Laurel, President of the Republic of the Philippines, do hereby proclaim that a state of war exists between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of American and Great Britain effective 10 a.m. September 23, 1944.

"Face to face with the grim realities of war, I earnestly call upon every Filipino at this momentous hour to show unswerving loyalty and give support to the Government so that regardless of trials and tribulations we are undergoing and will have to suffer in the near future we may closely and firmly unite to safeguard the free and independent existence of the Philippines.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the city of Manila on September 23 in the year of our Lord 1944 and the first of the Republic.

Signed Jose Laurel,
President of the Republic
of the Philippines."

LAUREL TAKES ACTION

Seizes Political Power to Facilitate Martial Law Execution

Domei

MANILA, September 22.—In order to facilitate the enforcement of martial law, the Philippine Islands have been divided into nine sections including seven administrative districts which have come into existence as from August 20, and two others comprising Manila, Cavite City, and Bulacan, Rizal, Cavite and [illegible] Provinces.

Immediately following the enforcement of martial law at 9 a.m. this morning the President took over the political powers necessary to carry out various practical measures in connection with the proclamation of martial law.

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The Philippine Proclamation of War

The Republic of the Philippines proclaimed war upon the United States and Great Britain! It is an act which should cause no surprise, for it is an act forced upon the Philippines by the enemy. There would have been no other choice.

Already for some time the enemy has been attacking the Philippines. American aircraft have been bombing Philippine territory, an American naval task force has forced its way into Philippine waters, and the United States has made no secret of her intention to invade and occupy the Philippines in full force. In the face of this challenge there was no choice but to resist. In order to defend her territory and to preserve her hard-won independence, the Philippines had no alternative but to resort to war.

How earnestly the Philippines sought to avoid this contingency is proved by the fact that she delayed taking this fateful step until now. Her one desire was to be left in peace to consolidate the independence which she had gained at last. But the enemy would not let her have her desire. The United States was determined that an independent Philippines should not exist. Although long pretending to favor eventual independence for the Philippines, when the Philippines finally did succeed in attaining that independence, the United States cast off her pretension and sought to bring the Philippines once more under her domination.

If the United States really favored independence for the Philippines, she should have granted that independence long ago. But she raised one objection after another under various pretexts. And when the Philippines, with the aid of Japan, at last succeeded in getting rid of the obstruction of the United States and gained real independence, the response of the United States was to threaten an attack on the Philippines. Instead of welcoming the establishment of an independent Philippines, the United States moved to destroy that independence and to restore a regime which, though promised a nominal "independence", would continue to be under her domination. Thus, if the independence which the Philippines had already attained was to be preserved, if the Philippine Republic was to survive at all, it was necessary to resist the American plan of reconquest. Hence the proclamation by the Philippine Government that a state of war now exists with the United States and her accomplice Britain.

Although the war which the Filipino people have now entered is one for the defense of their fatherland and for the preservation of their independence, it goes even beyond these things. For the Filipino people realize that in fighting for their independence and their existence, they are at the same time fighting for the principle of moral justice. The enemy is seeking to impose once more upon East Asia the humiliating colonization and imperialism of the past, to rebuild the shameful structure of unequal treaties, discriminatory tariffs, colonies, concessions, and special privileges. In opposition, the Filipinos together with their other Asiatic allies are insisting that they cannot tolerate any form of racial discrimination, economic exploitation, or political tutelage based on the malicious assumption that one race is superior to another. All must be free to conduct their own affairs as they see fit, to cooperate unreservedly on the basis of complete equality and reciprocity, without any dictation from the outside. It is for this principle of equality, for this principle of cooperation, for this principle of non-interference that the peoples of East Asia are fighting. For they realize that it is only on the basis of these principles, which in essence constitute the principle of moral justice, that lasting peace and the progress of civilization can be assured for the world.

It goes without saying that Japan welcomes the entrance of the Philippines into the war as a full-fledged ally. Already since the attainment of independence last autumn, the Philippine Republic under the dynamic leadership of President Jose P. Laurel has been intimately cooperating with Japan and the other countries of East Asia in the task of constructing this region on the basis of moral justice. With the formal entrance of the Philippines into the war, that cooperation becomes complete, demonstrating more forcibly than ever the unity of the peoples and nations of East Asia in waging their joint crusade for freedom and justice.

With the great stride which the Philippine nation has already made in perfecting its administration and strengthening its national life, there is no doubt that it now comes into the war fully prepared to cope successfully with all the burdens which the conflict will entail. The Filipino people no doubt will acquit themselves in the coming fray as befitting the proud and free men they have become.

Japan, sharing the same ideals and same aspirations as the Philippines, welcomes the Filipinos as comrades-in-arms, and pledges that on her part she will offer every assistance. It is not only the Pact of Alliance which assures this support, but it is her conviction in the justice of their common aim which will keep Japan steadfastly at the side of the Philippines throughout the conflict which they now face together. With all the peoples of East Asia now united as one, there is no power which can prevail against them, and together they will march on to victory and the successful establishment of a free Greater East Asia.

The bird of the morning sings.

Whence has he word of the morning before the morning breaks, and when the dragon night still holds the sky in its cold black coils?

Tell me, bird of the morning, how, through the twofold night of the sky and the leaves, he found his way into your dream, the messenger out of the east?

The world did not believe you when you cried, "The sun is on his way, the night is no more."

O sleeper, awake!

Bare your forehead, waiting for the first blessing of light, and sing with the bird of the morning in glad faith.

(Gitanjali and Fruit-Gathering by Rabindranath Tagore)

A Year Ago Today
September 24, 1943

President Roosevelt, today, announced the establishment of a Joint Army and Navy Production Investigation Commission, it is reported from Washington.

• • •

According to an announcement by German authorities, today, German submarines have recommenced activities against enemy convoys in the North Atlantic. The U-boats have been waging fierce and stubborn attacks for several days against the enemy, sinking 12 destroyers that were giving protection to a convoy and damaging three other warships of the same type.

• • •

Colonel Frank Knox, U.S. Navy Secretary who is now visiting in London, today pointed out the tremendous military and naval strength of Japan, and stressed the importance of the war in the Pacific, it is reported from London.

• • •

Anti-Axis casualties in the Salerno battle reached 20,000, the majority of whom were Americans with about 10 per cent British. Prisoners taken numbered 551 including 121 officers, it was announced by the German authorities.

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Shinrokuro Hidaka, Japanese Ambassador to Italy, arrived in Berlin where he is to confer with Reich leaders on Italian problems. Ambassador Hidaka is scheduled to remain in Berlin until September 25.

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Two thousand five hundred workers of the Pacific Electric Railway in Los Angeles went on strike today at 2:00 a.m., as scheduled, and, as a result all train and bus lines around Los Angeles have been completely paralyzed.

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Thai Foreign Minister Wichit Wichit Wathakan was appointed Ambassador to Japan, replacing Ambassador Nai Direk Jaiyanama.

Fruits of Wisdom

Men blush less for their crimes, than for their weaknesses and vanity.—Bruyere.

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Whoever blushes, is already guilty; true innocence is ashamed of nothing.—Rousseau.

• • •

I pray thee, O God, that I may be beautiful within.—Socrates.

THE RULERS OF INDIA THROUGH THE AGES

Country's History Is Record of Monarchical Governments

By FIROZKHAN NOON

India's civilization and culture are among the proudest in the world. Throughout her history, India knew only one form of government, and that was monarchical.

There are two periods which stand out prominently as the peaks of Aryan and Moghul cultures.

Little is known of India before the Aryan invasion about 2,000 B.C. Archaeological investigations in Mysore have discovered cities which reveal a civilization existing as far back as 10,000 B.C. The people then living in northwestern India grew wheat and lived a pastoral life, not perhaps very different from life in the outlying villages in India today. At Mohenjo Daro in Scind, and Harappa in the Punjab, cities and towns, with houses of brick and stone and paved streets, dating from 3,000 B.C., have been discovered. The town dwellers wore clothes made of cotton, they had ornaments of gold and silver and in their houses they had stone baths.

The most important epoch in the history of the Indo-Aryan civilization culminated in the reign of Asoka (264 B.C.), the king who brought for the first time the whole of India, Afghanistan, and Baluchistan into a single political entity. Buddha was born about 560 B.C. and under Asoka, Buddhism became the dominant religion of India, whence it was carried by Indian monks to China and the Far East where also went her wares carried by her merchants.

Asoka was a monarch in the real sense, and his laws were engraved on stone pillars, set up throughout his empire. He was the first Indian to revolt against the taking of life. At one time, thousands of animals were killed in his kitchens but, after he accepted Buddhism he permitted only one antelope and one peacock to be killed each day. It was at this time that vegetarianism took root in India.

The next epoch of Indian history opens with the Moslem invasion, which began in the eleventh century, contemporary with the Norman invasion of Britain. Mahmud of Ghasnavi carried out raids from the northwest, mainly for the purposes of plunder and the capture of slaves, and each successive invader, of whom Tamerlane was one, penetrated deeper into India, until finally, in the 15th century, Baber became the first Moghul Emperor. The Moslems ruled in India for nearly 700 years until they were ousted by the British.

Merged Two Religions

Of the Moslem epoch, the reign of Akbar in the 17th century marks the peak. He gathered around him ministers and courtiers belonging to all religions; poets, painters, writers, mathematicians and holy men of all faiths flocked to his court and sought his patronage. Akbar attempted to lay the foundations of a new religion by the merging of Islam and Hinduism. Although a Moslem, he married a Hindu princess, and his son, the next Emperor, did likewise. Akbar recodified the laws, regularized the system of land tenure and the collection of taxes and gave great impetus to Indian agriculture and industry, which was organized in guilds. To this day, streets can be found, named after the professions they housed: the Street of the Painters, the Street of the Cobblers, and so on.

India at this time held her own in the markets of the world, and it was not until the development of the heavy steel industry in the West, supported by European capitalism, that she lost her place. The first contact made by Western traders was for the purchase of calicoes from Bengal and Dacca muslins, so fine that a strip a yard wide could be passed through a finger ring.

London in those days bore no comparison with Dacca in its prosperity and splendor, and no country in the world produced finer silks, wool and cotton cloth, and cloth of gold. The gold brocades of Benares found their way to all parts of the world. These have been of such fine quality that, even to this day, they have withstood European competition. Whereas Asoka unified India through spiritual influence and the acceptance of Buddhism, Akbar maintained his dominion by military and political conquests, social reforms, and industrial and agricultural progress. Throughout all these periods India had no elected representative legislatures as known in the West. It was always a case of rule by one man whose word was law.

Contemporary with Akbar was Queen Elizabeth of England, who, in 1600, granted the first charter to the East India Company. The English, however, were not the only traders to be attracted by India's great riches. The Portuguese and the Dutch, whose trade was mainly in spices, were already established and were supplanted by the English and French merchants.

In 1757, the defeat of the French General Dupleix by Clive at Plassy made England the paramount trading power in India. The Moghul Empire had broken down, and India was splitting into separate kingdoms, some under Moslem sway, and others under the rule of Hindu princes.

The European merchants, to protect their trade, entered into local intrigues by backing one princeling against another. The East India Company soon realized that the best way of selling their goods at a high price and buying Indian goods at a low price was to have a strong army and to enjoy political authority. Consequently they went from conquest and, with the aid of locally recruited Indian troops, added province after province to their dominions until, toward the middle of the 19th century, they held sway over practically the whole of India.

The East India Company enjoyed a monopoly of Indian trade until the year 1813. They bought goods at the prices they were willing to pay and sold goods at the prices they could extract.

The inventions in the latter half of the 18th century connected with the power loom, and the jealousy of other capitalists in England, brought about the abolition of the East India Company's monopoly on Indian trade. From 1813 all English traders enjoyed equal trading rights. By an act of 1858, Her Majesty's Government took over the control of the East India Company. By the Proclamation of 1877 Queen Victoria assumed a closer personal relationship with India and the Indian princes, and took the title of Queen-Empress of India.

Extraterritoriality in China

Nation's History One of Valiant Struggle Against Binding Chains Imposed by Foreign Powers

Editor's Note.—Fumio Yoshiyama has contributed an article, "The History of Extraterritoriality," to the special number of the Shin Toa Keizai. In the article he reviews comprehensively the history of extraterritoriality and concessions in China since the Opium War. The writer also points out how these foreign rights, so firmly infixed in China's economic and political outlook, have been completely rooted out as a result of Japan's avowed new policy toward China. In view of the renewed Anglo-American machinations in China, it may not be amiss to review again the history of extraterritoriality in China.

Part I

Prior to the Opium War, China had called herself the "Celestial Empire" and had looked down upon all foreigners as inferior, thus refusing to treat them on a basis of equality. When the various European adventurers, therefore, began to come attracted by prospects of a prosperous trade, China had obstinately obstructed their entrance. Such a feudalistic policy eschewing foreign intercourse, however, was quickly shattered by British military pressure. Foreigners began arriving in increasing numbers until the general resentment against them resulted finally in the Opium War, as a result of which the extraterritorial right in China was acquired by the British.

It is generally supposed that the cause of the Opium War was the destruction of British-owned opium by Chinese officials, but in reality the war is traceable to the insistent demand of the British over a period of years for freedom of trade. As results of the war, the Treaty of Nanking (1842) and the Treaty of Humen (1843) were signed with the British; the Treaty of Wang-hea (1844) with the United States; and the Treaty of Huangpu (1844) with France, all of which ceded to the respective powers lands for the purposes of settlement and the right of jurisdiction in these settlements.

Treaty of Nanking

Article II of the Treaty of Nanking provides for the right of residence, giving rise to the system of settlements. In addition to Canton, four new ports, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai, were opened for residence and trade "without molestation or restraint." To protect her subjects and to supervise trade, Britain established a consulate in these opened ports. These consulates acted as the medium of communication between British merchants and Chinese officials. By this treaty also the system of licensed Chinese merchants to deal with the British, which was practiced in Canton since the opening of this port, was abolished. Also by this treaty Britain acquired Hongkong, as a first step toward her political and commercial expansion in China.

The Treaty of Humen was a supplementary treaty to the Treaty of Nanking. As the Treaty of Nanking did not explicitly indicate the land to be set aside for use of foreigners in each of the five opened ports, Article VII was provided to clarify the matter. This was the beginning of the settlements.

By the Treaty of Wang-hea the United States secured from China the right of trying Americans, in her own court. In a case where an American and a Chinese were involved, the conference system was adopted. When the controversy was between an American and a subject of a third power, Chinese officials had no right to interfere. The matter was settled between the United States and the third power concerned according to existing treaties between the two nations. Thus the question of jurisdiction was expressly stipulated in the text of a treaty.

By the Treaty of Huangpu it was provided that the French Consul, in corporation with Chinese officials, should specify the plots of land where commercial buildings were to be built. With regard to jurisdiction, in penal cases, it was stipulated that French subjects were to be tried in accordance with French law.

In 1843 British Parliament passed the regulations concerning administration of British subjects residing in China. In the statute book of 1844, it was stipulated that all British subjects, residing in China, and on vessels within 100 miles from the coast of China, should come within the jurisdiction of the British court of justice at Hongkong.

The forerunner of the highest judicial court of justice at Hongkong was established in 1833 when an ordinance was promulgated in that year governing rules and regulations with regard to trade in India and China. The said ordinance invalidated the monopoly of China trade by the East India Company, and on December 9, established a judicial court to try penal cases of British subjects in China. In 1841 by proclamation of the Chief Superintendent, the court was changed to the highest court of justice at Hongkong having jurisdiction over penal cases of nationals of third powers and British subjects might appeal.

Thus by the Treaty of Nanking, Hongkong became a colony of the British with an established court of justice and law-making power.

Treaty of Tientsin

Prior to the outbreak of the second war between Britain and China, a strong feeling was evident among the Europeans residing in China that the treaties then in force did not guarantee them a legal protection. No provisions had been made for Chinese courts to deal with Chinese subjects who had wronged a foreigner. To relieve the situation, revision of further treaties was deemed necessary, and negotiations for the purpose were started.

At this time, the outrages committed on the British merchantman Arrow and the murder of a French missionary gave the occasion for the British-French allied army to force their way to Peking in 1858 and compel the signing of the Treaty of Tientsin.

(1) Britain: In the treaty of Tientsin (June 26, 1858); it was stipulated that civil cases concerning British subject were to be tried at a British court; while in penal cases, the defendant system was mutually adopted; and in civil cases involving a British subject and a Chinese, the system of having Chinese officials in attendance at the trials was adopted. In addition to the five ports previously opened by the Treaty of Nanking, the Yangtse, Newchwang, Tengchow, Taiwan (Formosa), Chawchow (Swatow), Kiungchow (Hainan) and Tientsin were opened.

The Treaty of Tientsin meant also the opening of entire China to foreign intercourse, for it permitted holders of pass-ports issued by the British Consulate to travel and trade in any part of interior China.

(2) France: Article VI of the Treaty of Tientsin (June 27, 1858) granted freedom of settlement, trade and operation of industries in seven additional ports: Kiungchow, Anping, Taushui, Fukien Province, Chanchow, Tengchow and Nanking. Previous treaties had granted in the opened ports the building of houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, schools, cemeteries, and freedom to missionaries. The new treaty further guaranteed protection to missionary enterprise in interior China.

(3) United States: The United States did not actually participate in the war but she also concluded the Treaty of Tientsin (June 18, 1858) with China and acquired similar privileges.

The Taiping rebellion lasted for more than 20 years. Externally it gave the British-French allied forces an easy opportunity to storm Peking, and secondly, it gave strength to the other foreign powers in their treaty-acquired positions in China. In Shanghai especially the following rights were firmly established: settlements were neutralized; Chinese were permitted to reside in foreign settlements; the system of foreign concessions were further developed; the maritime customs system was established; and basis was laid for the Shanghai Mixed Court.

As to extraterritorial rights gained by the other powers the following developments may be traced:

Russia: By the Treaty of Tientsin (1858) and the Treaty of Peking (1860) Russia gained the same rights as exercised by Britain, United States and France. In the treaty of Petersburg signed in 1881, it was further stipulated that disputes arising between Russian and a Chinese subjects should be settled by common agreement of Russian consuls and Chinese officials.

Germany: By the Treaty of Tientsin (1861), the right of travel, trade, buying and selling of houses and lots was secured. A further stipulation concerning extradition and the trial of cases involving German and Chinese subjects was embodied. In the supplementary treaty signed in 1880 an agreement was reached upon legal procedure concerning cases involving German and Chinese subjects, and taxation on German imports.

By the Agreement of Chefoo of 1876 between China and Britain, the ports of Ichang and Wuhu on the Yangtze and the ports of Wenchow and Pakhoi along the coast-line were declared open to foreign trade. Chungking was to be similarly opened when it was possible for boats to ply up the Yangtze and, meanwhile, government officials were to be stationed in the city. Also Tatung, Anking, Hukow, Wuhsueh, Lukikow and Shasi were opened as ports of call, permitting freight to be landed at these ports. In the opened ports plots of land to be set aside for foreign settlements were to be decided by an agreement reached by the various national representatives concerned. It was further agreed that foreign settlements in these ports should be exempt from duty.

(To Be Concluded)

WHERE IS ROOSEVELT LEADING AMERICA?

Was the War Started to Cover Up His Failures?

By ICHITARO TAKADA

The following interesting story concerning Roosevelt has been reported from Washington. A suggestion that a bronze statue of Roosevelt be erected at a suitable place was proposed by some members of the House of Representatives, and a committee for this purpose was formed. The choice of an appropriate site proved to be the first obstacle encountered by the committee. One of the members suggested that it be set up beside George Washington's statue. Other members objected and said that the first president of the United States was the most honest man in America while Franklin Roosevelt is well known for his talent in telling lies. Then another proposition was made, this time that it be built near that of the 16th president, Abraham Lincoln but this plan also failed to materialize, the committee members declaring that Roosevelt's statue must not stand beside that of Lincoln, whose nickname was "Honest Abe." Thus the committee was confronted with a difficulty.

Then one member called out: "I have it. Let us put it by the side of the statue of Christopher Columbus!" His reason was roughly as follows: "Although when Columbus set sail from Spain he headed for China and India, he was not really aware of his destination. Neither did he know where his ship had actually arrived when at last it anchored. Moreover, the expenses of the expedition were met by others just as in the case of Franklin Roosevelt." This explanation was loudly applauded by the entire committee. Most probably these members recalled Columbus' miserable death in the midst of poverty, illness and hostile environments. Whether there is any similarity between Roosevelt and Columbus or not, the above report at least indicates some of the views regarding Roosevelt as a man, and his policies as entertained by the American citizens themselves.

Last Stage of Tragedy

One might state that Roosevelt has already begun his last stage of tragedy, and this undoubtedly means that the United States and her allies are facing nothing short of a calamity. This pitiful tragedy of Roosevelt and of the United States for that matter, has already gone through three stages, and the fourth is now in progress. The first stage was from 1933 to 1936 when Roosevelt held his first term as president. In this period Roosevelt, through the absolute failure of the New Deal forced his country into deeper financial and industrial trouble. Contrary to his promise of giving the people a financial balance in national treasury, he gave them a tremendous deficit reaching billions of dollars. Endeavoring to free himself from this ghastly financial plight, Roosevelt accelerated his efforts to dominate East Asia, in fact the whole world, and made a complete armament expansion, consequently creating the greatest cause of the current world conflict. This scheme was materialized by Roosevelt during the second stage between 1937 and 1940.

The third started in 1941 and continued until recently, during which Roosevelt broke his own repeated promise to his people: namely, that he would avoid the United States' entry into war. The flame of the current world war was first ignited by Roosevelt himself. Even his own countrymen do not deny this fact. The 1944 Republican presidential candidate, Governor Thomas Dewey, recently declared that Roosevelt brought an economic depression with him, and in order to deceive the people regarding this failure the Roosevelt Administration started the war. In his speech at a meeting of the representatives of the American Chamber of Commerce in London, Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of War Production also, declared that it was American provocation that forced the Japanese to attack Pearl Harbor, and it is a travesty of history to say that the United States was dragged into the war. This statement offended the American officialdom to no short extent. Secretary of State Cordell Hull himself was forced to issue a statement refuting the charge, but succeeded only in confirming it. Roosevelt and his clique might have been able to deceive the American people regarding the failure of the New Deal, but they cannot hoodwink them regarding the responsibility of the present gigantic World War.

Franklin Roosevelt is now facing the so-called second Wilsonian tragedy. Despite the fact that Woodrow Wilson was elected president twice in succession he was betrayed by Congress, his personal friends and the American people, and he passed away in miserable circumstances. As a result of his policy, the United States suffered the appalling loss of more than 300,000 lives, and forfeited tens of billions of dollars in expenses. For these sacrifices, the American nation reaped the harvest of a fearful economic crisis and a lengthy unemployment list. In addition perpetual international disputes and conflicts have arisen from the Treaty of Versailles which Britain, France and the United States jointly produced. It can be clearly seen the treaty sowed the seeds of the World War of today.

Imitated Woodrow Wilson

Roosevelt in close cooperation with Prime Minister Winston Churchill imitated Wilson and drew up the so-called Atlantic Charter, but it has already been reduced to a mere scrap of paper by the Anglo-Americans themselves. The Atlantic Charter is composed of eight points, but the following five are its features: (1) no territorial aggrandizement of Britain and America (2) opposition to territorial changes brought about without the consent of the peoples concerned (3) respect of right of any people to determine its form of government (4) enjoyment of trade and raw materials by all nations whether great or small or victor or vanquished in war (5) abandonment of the use of force.

When Prime Minister Churchill stated that this document does not apply to India it became a dead letter. Seeking to gain the favor of the Soviet Union, the Anglo-American nations abandoned the most important portion of the charter by ignoring such peoples as Finland, Poland, and the Baltic nations, in dealing with the Soviet-Finnish problem, the Polish-Soviet border issue and the Baltic question.

These are only a few examples, but they illustrate how the Anglo-Americans abused that document for the sake of their own greed and selfishness. With the sole intention of sacrificing nations like Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the nations of Central and South America upon the altar of the Anglo-American imperialism the Anglo-Saxon nations have carried out outrageous policies regarding those countries. In his book entitled "Roads to Victory" Dr. C. J. Hambro, head of the Norwegian puppet government brought home this point most amazingly. In effect he says, "The Anglo-American nations profess to respect the political rights of the smaller nations. But unless the Anglo-Americans give their consent, nothing can be done by the minor nations. The Anglo-American imperialists have been practically forcing their own governments to absolutely ignore the smaller countries, and wish to divide the whole world to suit themselves."

The very fact that the British Government banned the sale of Dr. Hambro's book proves the consternation that was brought about in Britain and America by this public accusation.

What will be brought about by the deceptive policies of Roosevelt and Churchill is clear; they may deceive the peoples of the world for a while, but in the end tragedy will rain on Roosevelt and Churchill as well as on the British and American peoples. Domestically, the mistaken war policies of the Roosevelt administration have already begun to bring about results. It is said that millions of American soldiers and the 20 million people of the United States are quite ignorant of the reasons for fighting this battle in which they have already lost hundreds of thousands of their dear ones.

By starting this great war, Roosevelt increased the financial deficit of the United States to the huge sum of $220,000,000,000. Authorities predict a tremendous economic crisis and millions of unemployed persons in the United States after the current war.

Although Roosevelt in all probability will be elected in the fourth-term attempt, the pendulum is about to swing in favor of the Republican Party. The administration is likely to lose a majority in the House of Representatives. It seems possible that Congress will obstruct the domestic and foreign policies of Roosevelt as in the case of Wilson. The chief reason for this is the fact that Roosevelt has broken numerous promises made to the world through the Atlantic Charter.

The United States Government does not intend to observe any international agreement which does not accelerate the fulfilment of her imperialistic aims. Even if Roosevelt succeeds in attaining a clear majority in Congress in the national elections that success will only aid in the increase of political power even to the point of dictatorship. Consequently, by overturning the democratic form of government, he will [illegible] the national [illegible] of his country.

PRESS COMMENTS

Saturday, September 23

NATIONAL MOVEMENT AT TIME OF DECISIVE BATTLE

ASAHI—The recent extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet was the occasion for the rise of opinion in favor of conducting a national movement to respond to the needs of a decisive battle of the war, and we find the Government, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, and the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association discussing among them how best to meet this demand of public opinion.

The Government, on its part, is reported to be favoring the idea of dissolving the Central Headquarters of the Movement to Arouse the People to Action and to set up in its place the Headquarters for the Direction of the National Movement designed to coordinate and give direction to various activities carried on in the proposed national movement to meet the needs of a decisive battle.

Prime Minister Koiso has declared that "the people will arouse themselves to take action in cooperation with the Imperial Forces at the front which are about to act deliberately in order to end for once the enemies America and Britain."

The Combined Fleet, as Admiral Toyoda, the Commander-in-Chief, has made known, is watching for the opportunity to crush the haughty enemy.

The war situation in the Pacific is rapidly taking on an aspect decisive of the war. It is in fact time for total power of the people to be concentrated on the achievement of the object of bringing the enemy to its knees.

What the conditions under which we are today can be seen from the Imperial Rescript granted at the opening of the recent Diet in which the passage occurred that "there is a chance today for the country to triumph in the war by concentrating all its power on the task."

It is time that a fresh national movement to arouse the people to action was conceived, brought into being, and carried on energetically.

The present state of the current war which is a total war suggests that there has not been a greater need for the people to line up with the officers and men, to invigorate the spirit of defeating the enemy, and to bring about an increase in fighting power which is necessary in order to annihilate the enemy.

Needless to say, the proposed national movement will aid the heightened determination to guard the fundamental character of the Empire, an invigorated fighting spirit, and an extension of the nation's fighting power. There have been few national movements in Japan which could compare with that which will be in progress before long. Once the movement gets under way, it must be carried on until the situation which has produced it is at an end. Should it die out as have some of the national movements we have had in the past, the consequences would be serious because of the situation.

The characteristic of a national movement is that it seeks to stimulate the national will and have the people practice whatever is necessary in order to realize the will. In order for a national movement to be successful the leaders are bound to act in a manner which will help the people to develop spontaneous enthusiasm over the carrying out of what they are called upon to do in the movement. They must be careful not to do anything like dictating to the people. What is wanted in a national movement is not the subservience of the people, but their cooperation. The people do not necessarily accept what is given them by their leaders. The question of the leaders in a national movement is not that of giving but that of getting the people to accept. The Japanese people are full of confidence in final victory. It is up to a national movement to get the people to concentrate on attaining that victory.

A national movement is successful when it finds active support at places where the individual people are employed. It is to be hoped that the proposed national movement will be so conducted as to find conscious support among the people who are engaged in the production of materials necessary for them in the conduct of war, notably of aircraft and foodstuffs.